

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ONE CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100 BOSTON, MA 02114-2023

May 12, 2011

Wilmington, MA 01887

Subject: Review of Groundwater from Your Well (Map 24/Lot 63)

Olin Chemical Superfund Site

Dear

At the direction of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), consultants working for Olin Corporation (which is subject to a consent order with EPA to evaluate contamination in and around property it owns on Eames Street) collected samples of your well water to analyze for chemical compounds which have been found in groundwater associated with the Olin Chemical Superfund Site. Olin Corporation reported results to you in a letter dated April 7, 2011.

I am writing to you today to bring to your attention the fact that n-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) was detected at an estimated concentration of 1.2 nanograms per liter (ng/l) in a sample collected from your well on December 16, 2010. As indicated in the April 7, 2011 letter you received from Olin Corporation, this concentration did not exceed a guideline limit of 10 ng/l established by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). There is no federal drinking water standard for NDMA.

However, since this sampling effort is associated with a federal Superfund site, state guidelines do not dictate what action, if any, should be undertaken in response to potential risks to public health. Therefore, EPA conducted a focused risk assessment based on the water sample from your well. The result concludes that if a person drinks an average of 2.0 liters of water per day for 350 days per year for 70 years, and the concentration of NDMA remains at 1.2 ng/l, that person would have about a 5 in 1,000,000 increased possibility of developing cancer. This represents a conservative and cautious estimate of the maximum lifetime exposure risk from continued drinking from your well. Due to the physical properties of NDMA (e.g., low volatility and permeability), NDMA does not readily transfer from water to air or from water to skin, therefore inhalation and direct contact with NDMA in groundwater do not result in measurable exposure risk. The 5 in 1,000,000 risk estimate from continued drinking is below the 1 in 10,000 risk (of developing cancer over a lifetime of exposure) that EPA uses as a benchmark in determining whether use of a drinking water supply should be immediately discontinued.

Based on the result of EPA's risk assessment, EPA does not recommend any restriction on the use of your well water at this time.

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